DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Geographic News Bulletin

This bulletin is issued weekly by the Department of the Interior. The information in it is obtained from the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, Washington, D. C.

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THIS EXTRAORDINARY DINOSAUR (TRICERATOPS, UPPER CRETACEUOS, NORTH AMERICA) WAS A STRICTLY LAND FORM AND GREW TO A LARGE SIZE—25 FEET IN LENGTH

The head, with its accompanying neck frill, was enormous—8 feet in length in the large specimens. The creature was herbivorous, the jaws containing many fine teeth, evidently used in crushing vegetable food. The enormous horns grew upon a bony cover, as do the horns of a cow, and the upper jaws ended in a horny, turtle-like beak. The two erect dinosaurs in the background are Trachodons, a contemporaneous species.

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Iceland: Lacks Ice and Railroads

CARRYING ice to Iceland will appear to most persons about as reasonable as carrying wheat to the Dakotas, cotton to Texas, or beans to Boston. But according to press dispatches the Icelanders made an appeal during the past winter to Norway, the nearest European country, to ship them ice in order that they might save their herring harvest from being spoiled by the mild weather.

The land which has come down in history as Iceland might with more accuracy have been given a diametrically opposite title, and called "The Land of Fire." The surface of no other country, perhaps, is so deeply marked by the withering blasts that well up from time to time, and in no country of equal area are to be found so many volcanic peaks and vents. Nearly 5,000 square miles of the 40,000 of the country's area are covered by lava flows.

Winter in Capital Milder Than in Milan

Iceland is approximately the size of Ohio and about 8,000 square miles larger than Ireland. It is only a short distance off the Europeward coast of Greenland, and its northernmost cape just touches the Arctic Circle. From there the Midnight Sun can be seen. In spite of its position so near the North Pole, Iceland, thanks to the Gulf Stream, has a relatively mild winter climate. Reykjavik, the capital, is in the same latitude as Nome, Alaska, but has a January temperature milder than that of Munich, Germany, or Milan, Italy.

Icelandic summers, however, are cool, due to the large fields of ice that float down from the north. Grain cannot be grown satisfactorily, and all breadstuffs must be imported. Hay, potatoes, and turnips are the only agricultural products of any importance. Cattle, horses, and sheep are raised in considerable numbers, and large quantities of fish—chiefly cod and herring—are taken from the neighboring waters.

Though Iceland has an extensive area, for all practical purposes it might just as well be only a seventh its actual size. Although Europeans emigrated to Iceland about seven hundred years before Old World colonies were established in the now tamed North America, only the valleys and lowlands near the coast of the island have ever been developed. This is not because of a lack of energy on the part of the hardy Scandinavians who settled the island, but because the interior, comprising about six-sevenths of the total area, is a waste of lava, boulders and gravel, devoid of vegetation.

America's Discoverers Came from Iceland

The island is approximately 200 miles wide and 300 miles long, but hardly a habitation can be found more than 40 miles from salt water. There are no railroads and few carriage roads. The inhabitants depend almost entirely on water transportation along the coast and in the many fiords.

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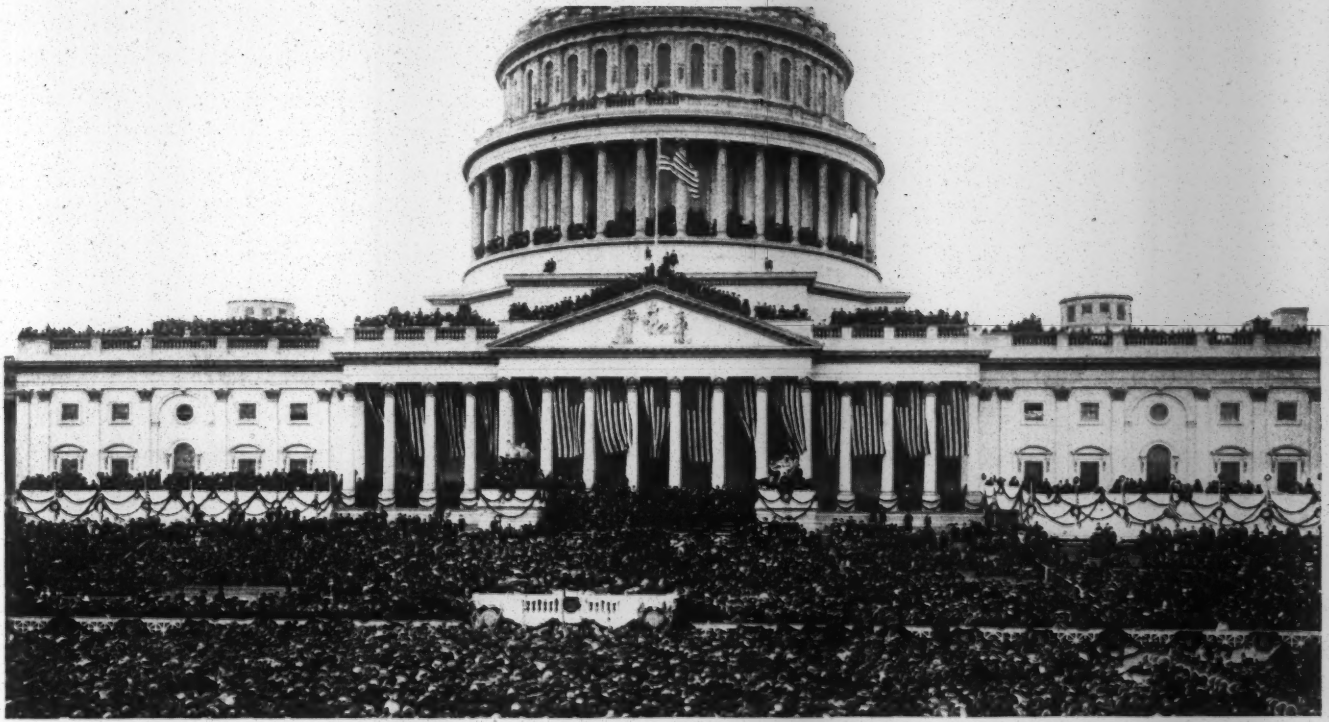

THE MAKING OF A PRESIDENT BEFORE THE ERA OF THE SIMPLER INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT HARDING

Thousands of citizens from all parts of the country pack into the plaza in front of the Capitol at Washington to see the inauguration of a President of the United States. In none of the other republics of the world is the president inducted into office out of doors where the populace can observe the ceremonies. On the occasion of the latest inauguration science, by the development of a loud-speaking telephone, made it possible for every one of the many thousands of spectators to hear the inaugural address of the President.

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Only United States Has Al Fresco Inauguration

IF President-elect Harding had been inducted into the chief office in some other republics on March 4, the ceremonies would have varied from a simplicity even greater than that he insisted upon, to an investiture of almost regal splendor.

If he had followed the customs long observed in France, the ceremony would have taken place in the White House. Instead of taking a formal oath he would have uttered a pledge to consecrate himself to the service of the Republic—and he would have ended by kissing the retiring President on both cheeks.

If he had been made President according to the practice of the Mexicans he would have taken the oath in the hall of the House of Representatives at midnight. After the administration of the oath he would have received the embrace of his predecessor.

Ribbon and Medal Symbol of Presidency

In Brazil after being sworn in he would have had hung across his chest a broad band of the colors of the country, supporting a medal—the insignia of the Presidency.

In Chile, following the taking of the oath before a joint session of Congress, he would have gone, through streets lined with soldiers at "present arms," to a special Te Deum service in the principal church of the city. Immediately afterward he would have held a reception, and would then have paid a visit to the ex-President.

If he had been inducted into the Presidency of the war-torn and war-threatened Republic of Poland, he would have gone to a "White House" at whose doors were stationed cavalry with drawn sabers. When he went abroad he would be preceded, not by a trim policeman or an Argus-eyed secret service man, but by a herald who would demand that the populace "uncover before the most noble President."

Most Elaborate Ceremonies in Smallest Republic

And if Senator Harding, instead of being installed as chief executive of the world's biggest republic, had been seated as one of the heads of the smallest republic, San Marino, he would have experienced the most elaborate procedure of all. He would have donned quaint mediaeval state garments; would have marched through the streets of the capital preceded by heralds and escorted by gorgeously uniformed soldiers; would have attended a preliminary church service during which his predecessor would sit on a canopied throne soon to be occupied by him; and finally, would have had placed on his head a headdress indicative of his office.

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Iceland can be considered the half-way station between Europe and America. Nearly 700 years before Columbus sailed to the West Indies through the warm South Atlantic in his relatively large, decked ships, daring Scandivanian sea rovers in their open boats passed from Norway to Iceland and from there to the coasts of Maine and Rhode Island.

Though Icelanders, faced by implacable natural forces and conditions, have been unable to achieve any great degree of physical development on their lava-covered, short-summered island, they have made notable advances in less material fields. A truly remarkable literary development sprang up in this far northern island in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, a full hundred years before the Renaissance began to make itself felt in sunny Italy.

Married Women Keep Their Own Names

In more recent times the Icelanders have shown themselves to be in advance of many parts of the world in their social and political ideas. Women had full political privileges in Iceland earlier probably than in any other civilized country. At the present time part of the Althing, the Icelandic parliament, is elected by proportional representation. Votes for women is not the only mark which feminism has placed on the life of Iceland. The custom of women retaining their own names when they marry is more general in Iceland, perhaps, than in any other modern country.

The political status of Iceland is in some ways peculiar. In effect it might be said to be an autonomous state in partnership with Denmark. It has no army or navy and is under no obligation to contribute either men or money to the Danish military forces. Denmark recognizes the country's permanent neutrality. Furthermore, the present arrangement is only temporary, and after December 31, 1940, either of the associated countries may demand a revision of the "Act of Union" which now unites them.

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When Dinosaurs Gamboled in America

SPRING in America, which is heralded in this age by the coming of the birds, the stirring of small animals, and the emergence from hibernation and winter lethargy of the few large animals that civilization has left us, was a vastly different matter a few eons ago, when America produced animals larger than any now living. An idea of what these creatures were like is given in the following communication to the National Geographic Society from Barnum Brown:

"That was so long ago that nothing remains of these creatures except their bones, and they are turned to stone. Hidden away under strata of earth, their spoor has long since grown cold.

"The animals are dinosaurs; for the moment we will call them lizards—not the creeping, crawling kind, but huge reptiles that stalked upright through the jungles, rivaling in size the elephant, the hippopotamus, and the rhinoceros.

Dwelt in Marshes of Prehistoric Times

"In the marshes of prehistoric times dwelt a host of reptiles, some large, some small, and of various forms, flesh-eaters and herb-eaters, but all sharing certain characters in common and known as dinosaurs. Not any were closely related to any living reptile, yet they had some characters common to the lizards, crocodiles, and birds.

"Of the kinds characteristic of the period one species, an herb-eater named Trachodon, was more than 30 feet long and about 15 feet high when standing erect. Its head, with broadly expanded mouth, resembles that of a duck, but back of the beak there are more than two thousand small teeth, disposed in many vertical rows, each containing several individual teeth, the new ones coming up from below as the old ones wore out.

"The long hind feet terminated in three large hoofed toes, and the shorter, slender front feet were partly webbed. A long, thin, slender tail acted as a powerful swimming organ, and the body was covered with rough tuberculate skin. Having no means of defense, it lived chiefly in the water, where it was free from attacks of the flesh-eaters.

Some Monsters Dwelt in Water

"With the 'duck-billed' Trachodon there were other large closely related forms inhabiting the water. Saurolophus was similar in build, but characterized by a large crest extending above the skull, and pelvic bones that were developed for attachment of powerful tail muscles. It was probably a distinctly aquatic type.

"Along the shores lived Ornithomimus, bird mimic, as the name implies, one of the most remarkable of the dinosaurs. A skeleton found last year

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In addition to differences in the official ceremonies by which the presidents of the world are inducted into office, there are many variations in the festivities and celebrations that accompany these events. In some cases the accompanying observances have become practically a part of the official procedure. The newly installed French President almost invariably drives to the Hôtel de Ville, the Paris city hall, after taking office, to attend a luncheon and reception as the guest of the president and members of the Municipal Council. In Mexico, during the evening preceding the midnight induction into office, the President-elect usually attends a banquet given in his honor by the Mayor of the City of Mexico. There is a public reception at the Presidential palace the morning after the inauguration.

Concert and State Banquet in Chile

In Chile the inauguration day is often closed by a special concert at the municipal theatre, and on the following evening the new President gives a state banquet for diplomatic representatives, special envoys, and high officials of the republic and the provinces.

The United States, although its capital is in a more rigorous climate than those of many republics, is alone in having an "al fresco" inauguration. The first four Presidents were inaugurated indoors, and beginning with the third President, Jefferson, the inaugurations took place in Washington. Monroe, the first President to be sworn in out of doors, chose the east portico of the Capitol because of a dispute as to whether he should be inaugurated in the House of Representatives or the Senate chamber. After a return to the indoor inauguration by Jackson, the outdoor ceremonies were resumed. Because they seemed to fit in so well with American ideas of democracy, permitting the general public to see the procedure, they have been retained.

President Taft broke the precedent to the extent of demonstrating that when the weather is particularly inclement it is wiser to have the ceremonies performed indoors; but the majority of Presidents in the future, as in the past, may be expected to take the oath out of doors, where not the favored few, but the multitudes, may witness the passage of authority to the shoulders upon which they have voted to confer it.

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Where Our Imports Come From—Perfumes

MILADY America paid $4,972,541 during the last year for imported perfumes, cosmetics and toilet preparations, a fact which has led to confused speculation by Mere Man as to what She did with them.

The real romance and adventure in the statement lies not so much in the uses to which these imports were put as where they came from.

The sunny isles and lands along the Mediterranean probably grew some of the flowers, others perhaps were plucked by dark Moorish hands in Algeria, and mayhap an animal in the brooding hills of western China gave its life to furnish one constituent of the perfume.

The vegetable kingdom is necessarily the most fertile source of perfumes. From its flowers such as the rose and jessamine, and from its seeds, woods and barks such as the spices and sandalwood, even the most fastidious connoisseur would be able to select either some simple odor or a complex bouquet. Nor are they for perfumes alone, but are used for scenting soaps, cream, pomades, and in making flavorings and extracts.

Shakespeare an "Unfailing Naturalist"

Rosemary, thyme, sweet basil, and marjoram are found in great profusion in Mediterranean countries, and here the chemist can distill the whole plant and not bother about picking the flowers. Shakespeare, the unfailing naturalist that he was, made no error when he chose for Ophelia the flowers she scattered.

The old-fashioned lavender flowers in which our grandmothers used to pack the household linen and their rich old laces grow best in France and England.

A temperamental flower it might be called too, for unless the climate, soil, and altitude suit, it refuses to breathe forth its usual fragrance. Fine grades of the plants are grown in the Drome region, France, at an altitude of 2,500 feet, while the flowers generally considered to have the most agreeable fragrance come from the Mitcham district of England, where the conditions of soil and altitude are decidedly different from those in France.

The rose geranium, which has such an exquisite odor, is also grown and distilled in France, but Spain, Algiers, and the island of Reunion engage in the industry. Unlike the lavender, however, the perfume of the rose geranium comes from its leaves and not from the flowers.

Rose Crop Vies With Tobacco

But the country that might well be known by its scent is Bulgaria, for its rose crop is second only to its tobacco. Over 12,500 acres of land in the provinces of Philippopolis and Stara Zagora are given over to the growth of

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shows it to have been a toothless creature, the jaws sheathed like the beak of a bird.

"On land there were hoofed quadrupedal herbivorous kinds, some, like Monoclonius, having an immense skull, six feet in length, with three horns, a short one over each eye and a longer one above the nose. The jaws terminated in a sharp clipping beak, like that of a turtle, and further back in the mouth there were rows of double-rooted teeth. The back of the skull was developed into a broad shield, with scalloped border, extending over the neck.

"Strangest of all was the herbivorous Ankylosaurus, a stocky, short-legged, big-bodied creature, completely encased in armor. Dermal plates covered the skull, followed by rings of plates over the neck and rows of flat plates over the back and hips. Its tail terminated in a huge club, and the belly was covered by a pliable mosaic of small, close-set plates. It was further protected by a movable plate that could be dropped down like a shutter over each eye, thus completing its protection from insects and formidable foes."

After Osborn, from a drawing by Charles R. Knight. Used by permission National Geographic Society. © 1921

THIS FORMIDABLE DINOSAUR, THE LARGEST OF THE CARNIVOROUS FORMS, WAS SOME 40 FEET IN LENGTH

It must have presented a most imposing sight as it stalked about in search of food. The great 5-foot jaws were armed with long and sharp teeth, capable of tearing the tough skins of such antagonists as the great Triceratops of the same period. This latter creature could not escape by running away, and so was forced, no doubt, to back into some dense forest growth whenever possible, presenting merely its sharp-horned head to its adversary.

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The Winning of the Canadian West

DISCOVERY of oil in northwest Canada toward the Arctic Circle has increased the importance of the western Canadian provinces near the United States border, which will be the door-way for this new oil treasury.

The prairie provinces of Canada—Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta—were not without their bids to fame before this discovery. For example:

The last of the wild buffalo herds of America, survivors of the millions of animals which roamed the plains and woodlands of the continent, now range through northwestern Alberta.

This province alone is estimated to contain 15 per cent of the world's known coal supply.

The myriad of wild ducks, geese, and other migratory fowl that fly northward each spring are for the most part bound for the northern parts of the three prairie provinces, where they build their nests and rear their young.

The three provinces are naturally considered at once, for among them they cover all of Canada which is in process of being settled, west of the older Great Lakes province of Ontario and east of the Rocky Mountains. This is Canada's "West," where restless pioneer spirits from all lands are carving out an empire as kindred spirits a generation or so ago wrought the wilderness of the Missouri valley and the "great American desert" into the rich States of today.

Northern Boundaries Near Arctic Circle

The Canadian pioneers have advantages over those who won the American West in that they have better railroad methods and equipment, telephones and wireless. But they have a relentless new enemy in the bitter cold of the northern regions of the provinces. For though the southern portions are separated from the United States by only an imaginary line and are similar to the northern reaches of Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana, of which they are geographically a part, to the north the three provinces sweep to within 500 miles of the Arctic Circle.

The predominant part of the population and development of the three provinces is in their southern halves. In this region Winnipeg, capital of Manitoba, with its population close to 200,000, is Canada's Chicago of a generation or so ago; while Edmonton, capital of Alberta, is the St. Paul of a similar period. The northern portion of the provinces is a region crossed by many rivers and dotted with numberless lakes, a region divided between woodlands and "muskegs," or swampy flats. There the trapper still reigns supreme and life is primitive.

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roses, from the petals of which attar of roses is distilled. In the wonderful gardens at Kazanlik, Karlovo, Klisoura, and Stara Zagora, the best of the flowers are grown.

The fields are arranged much after the fashion of the vineyards of France and Italy, and the half-open, dew-laden buds, which have very few petals, are snipped off by diligent girls, boys, and women in the early mornings of May and June.

About four thousand pounds of roses are produced on an acre of land, but it takes about two hundred pounds of petals to produce an ounce of oil for an attar which before the war cost about $250 a pound.

Roses are grown in other parts of the Balkans, as well as in Asiatic Turkey, and in India, Persia, the Fayum province in Egypt, and in France. The industry lately has been introduced into Germany.

Many of the countries of Europe have for centuries successfully distilled oil from such seeds as caraway, anise, and fennel for flavoring and scenting purposes, and the citrus fruits of Italy and Sicily yield quantities of valuable oil.

In fact, so fragrant are the flowers and shrubs of some of the islands of the Mediterranean that they are called the Spice Islands of Europe, as the Molucca Archipelago in the Dutch East Indies is known as the Spice Islands on account of the nutmegs, mace, and cloves that they produce. Napoleon said that he would know his native land, Corsica, with his eyes shut by the odor of the white-flowered cistus.

Frankincense Derived From Gum Resin of Tree

Frankincense, which is one of the chief aromatic constituents of the incense burned in churches, is the gum resin of a tree found in East Africa, Arabia, and on the island of Socotra in the Indian Ocean.

Ladies and gentlemen in the time of Napoleon used the tonquin bean, a native of Guiana, to scent their snuff-boxes.

The animal perfumes are extremely limited in number. Ambergris is secreted by the sperm whale, civit by the animal of the same name, and musk by the musk-ox, the musk-rat, and the musk deer, which is found in the high Himalayas, Tibet, and eastern Siberia. About 15,000 ounces of musk, usually in the grain form, are annually imported to the United States from China and India. Musk has one peculiar and almost inexplicable characteristic. One grain of it kept freely exposed to the air of a well-ventilated room will impregnate the atmosphere for ten years without sensibly diminishing in weight.

REAPING WHEAT ON THE PLAINS OF ALBERTA, CANADA: THESE GREAT PLAINS ARE A CONTINUATION OF OUR OWN ROLLING PRAIRIES